

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Board's Decision mailed November 30, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the claims:

Please cancel 1-3, 7, 8 and 11, 12-14 and 16.

In claim 15, line 1, please delete claim 6" and insert - - claim 17- - thereof.

Please add the following new claims: